



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

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NEWS RELEASE

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California Woman Sentenced to 42 months in Prison for Aggravated Identity Theft and Fraud

WASHINGTON - Angie Rogers, a 43-year-old business woman from Sacramento, California, has been sentenced to 42 months in prison for aggravated identity theft and first degree fraud, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor and Special Agent in Charge Jeffrey Irvine, United States Secret Service, Washington Field Office, jointly announced today.

The Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan, U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, imposed a mandatory two-year sentence earlier today for Aggravated Identity Theft, and a consecutive ten-year sentence, with all but eighteen months suspended, for First Degree Fraud. Rogers pleaded guilty to the two offenses on October 8, 2008. At that time, Rogers admitted that she used the identity of one of her former employees in a public relations firm Rogers owned to obtain fraudulent credit cards and to rent an apartment in the District of Columbia, which she then defrauded by not paying her rent.

During 2004, the Rogers owned a company in Houston, Texas, called Black Ink Media Group, LLC, where she employed a woman with the initials "AH." AH was hired for a public relations position, and gave Rogers her social security number and other personal information so that she could be paid. AH eventually quit working at Black Ink Media Group. In early January, 2005, Rogers decided to relocate from Texas to the District of Columbia and she used the name "AH" and AH's real social security number in her application to lease an apartment at the Massachusetts Court Apartments, located at 300 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. Rogers faxed the application to the rental company in the District. During the leasing process, Rogers also faxed the rental company a fraudulent Texas Identification Card bearing her photo and the name "AH." Rogers signed the lease on January 31, 2005, using the name "AH," but she failed to pay her rent, and the rental company eventually took steps to evict her. Rogers was ordered to pay the apartment complex restitution in the amount of \$9,154.59.

At the same time she was using AH's identity to lease the Massachusetts Court Apartment, Rogers was also using AH's identity to apply for an American Express credit card. Through a complicated series of transactions with American Express to obtain replacement credit cards, Rogers was eventually able to obtain two different American Express cards – one in AH's name and one in Rogers name – which she actually used to

make purchases. Those purchases included visits to fine restaurants in the District and a trip to Las Vegas, Nevada, including airline and hotel charges. Rogers was ordered to make restitution to American Express in the amount of \$11,113.27.

Rogers was also ordered to pay \$3,800 to another former landlord for rent she failed to pay in 2005. The remaining six victims who will receive restitution were vendors for an elaborate birthday party that Rogers held for a former husband.

In announcing today's sentence, U.S. Attorney Taylor and Secret Service Special Agent in Charge Irvine praised the efforts of Secret Service Agent Kevin Aurand, who investigated the case. They also commended the U.S. Attorney Office staff that assisted in the successful prosecution, including Latoya Wade and Assistant U.S. Attorney Frederick Yette, who prosecuted the case.

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